



# 5 Tips to Improve Teamwork

Teamwork is one of those things that you can never master, so here we review 5 tips for making teamwork better.

## Being Open

To new ideas, perspectives, people. When a team is working well, it is because of the openness of the team members to bring their ideas to the table without worrying about the consequences.

Don't be afraid to bring up ideas that may seem out there. It may not be the right idea for the moment, but it may contain a kernel of an idea that will help the team along.

## Transparency

Everyone on the team needs to be transparent. This is tricky because some people, by nature, are not comfortable with transparency.

Teams are transparent when they say what they mean, when they listen to what others have to say, and when they don't gossip.

Make it a practice to never use someone who isn't in the meeting as an excuse. Pull them into the meeting and get their feedback rather than making an assumption they will be a blocker.

## One Mission

Sometimes the overall mission gets lost because each department has their own objectives. But, every team in a company should be supporting the overall mission of the company. Great teams remember this.

When it seems like people within the team are clashing, bring everyone back to the same mission.

## Be Inclusive

Many companies fall into the trap that they go to the same people over-and-over. You should purposefully include people from adjacent departments to ensure you are getting different perspectives.

Look around you at the people on the team and determine if there is someone else who might be able to bring a difference perspective. Then include them.

## Accountability

Good teams have a culture of accountability. They build into their framework tools that help with accountability because they recognize that not everyone has this strength.

Not everyone is good at accountability. Don't try and change them. Change your process to account for this and come up with a way to help everyone on the team hold up their end of the bargain.